

# Outlook 2016 - Search Function Not Working on Shared Mailboxes



## Office 365

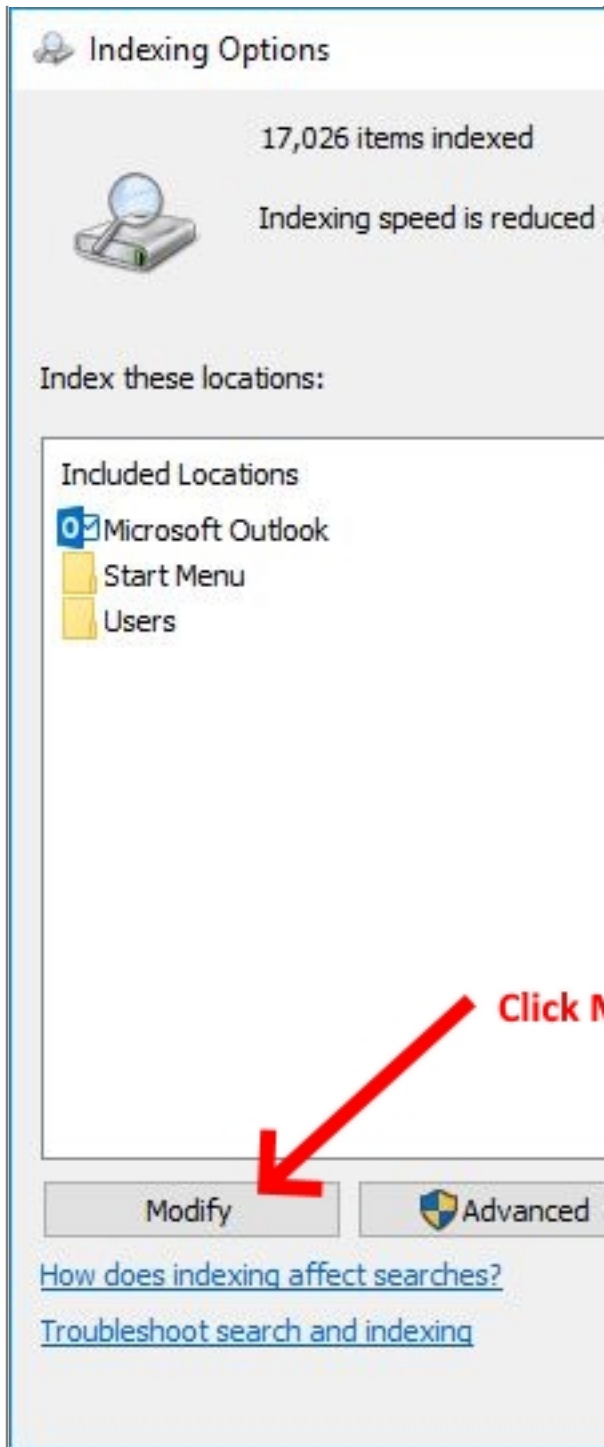
You discover that the search function in Outlook returns no results when searching a shared mailbox, yet it works fine in your primary mailbox.

You've even tried to delete your profile and re-create it and still the problem persists.

So how do you fix it?

**Firstly, we need to disable the indexing on Outlook by going to File > Options > Search and the click Indexing Options:**

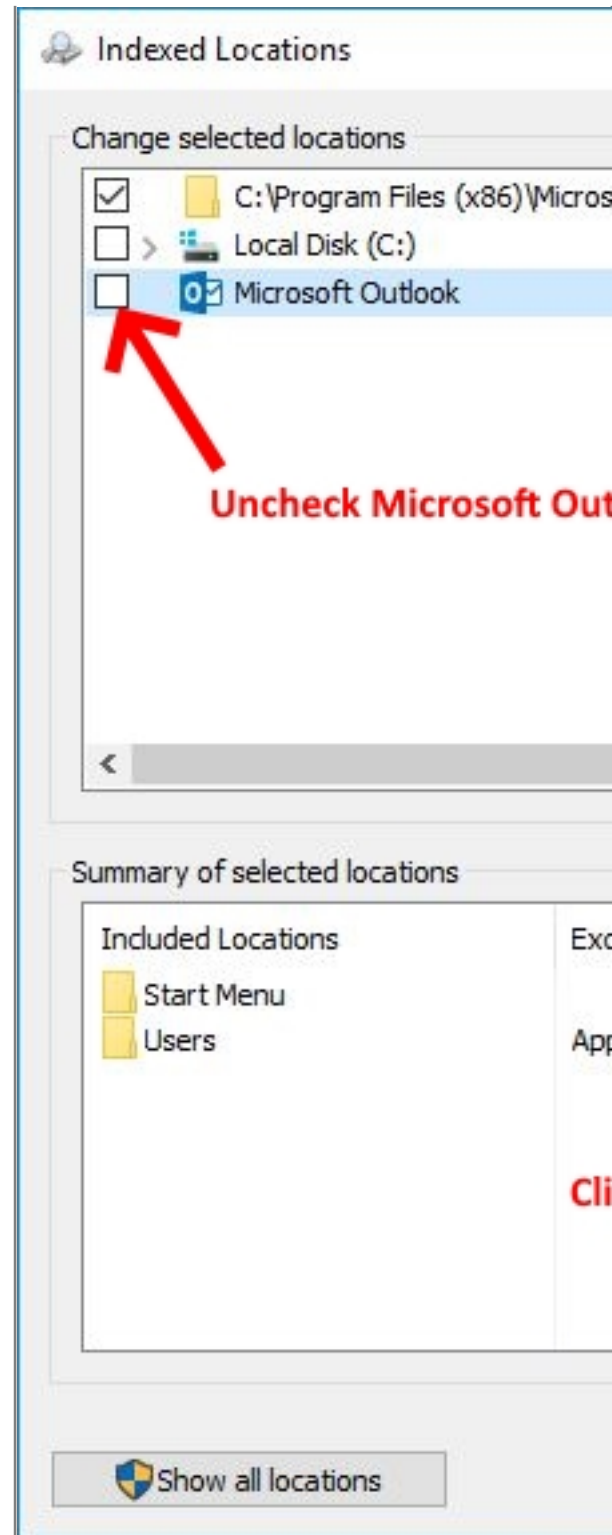
Step #	Task	Screenshot
1	Click <b>Modify</b> .	



2

Uncheck **Microsoft Outlook**.

Then, click **OK**.



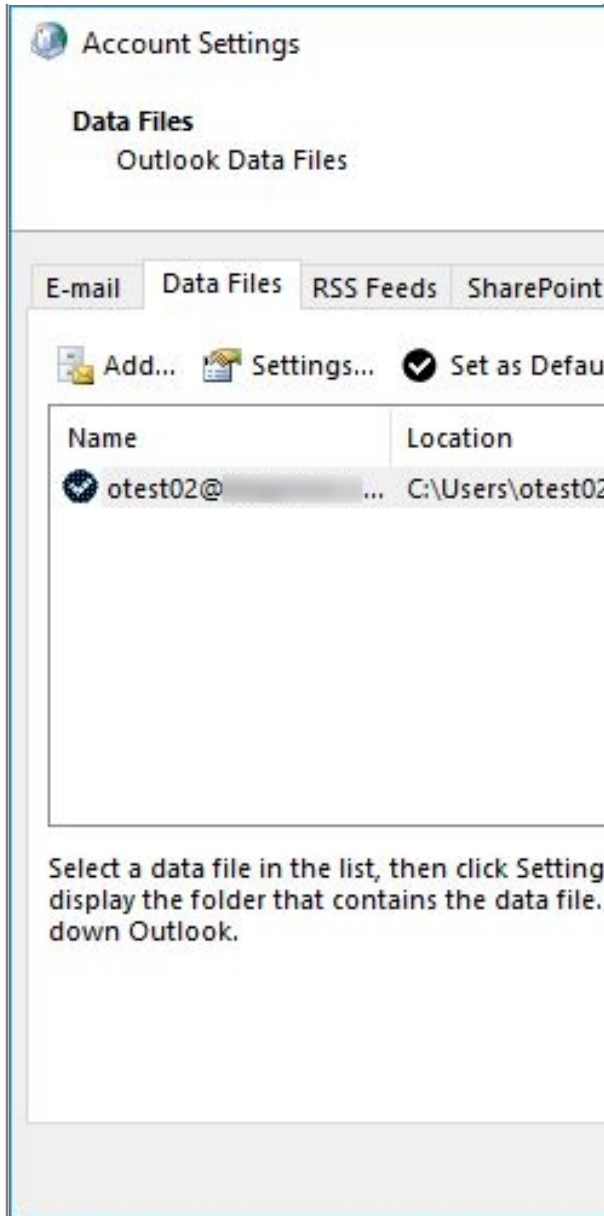
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Now that we've done that, close Outlook and any email windows you have open.

Open **Control Panel** and ensure in the View By drop down list at the top of the window is set for Small Icons to display the full contents of the Control Panel.

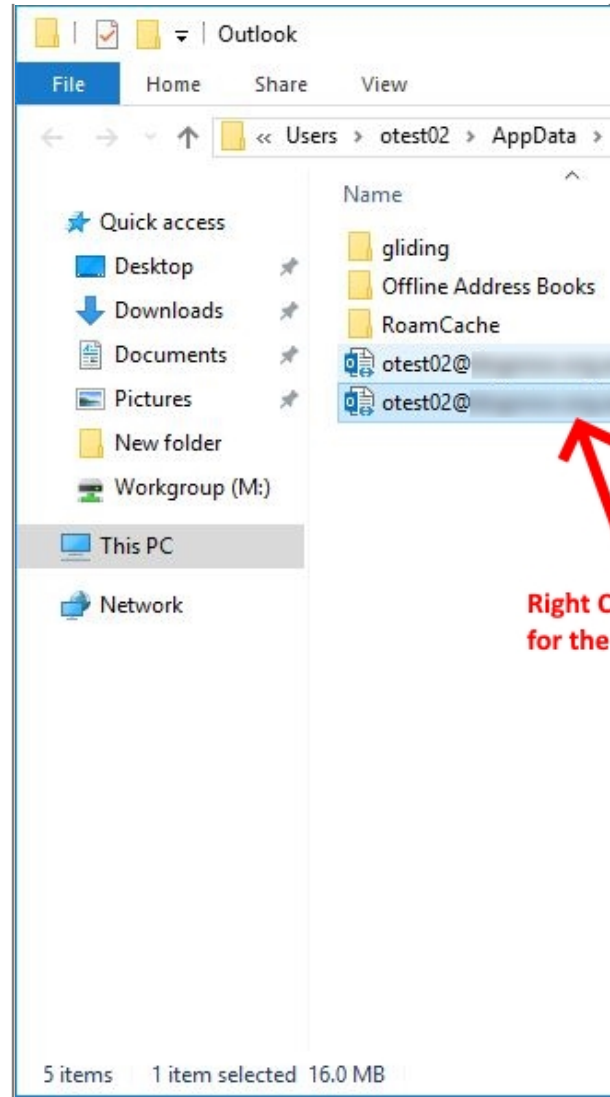
Click on the Mail (32-bit) link to open the Mail Setup of Outlook.

Click **Open File location**.



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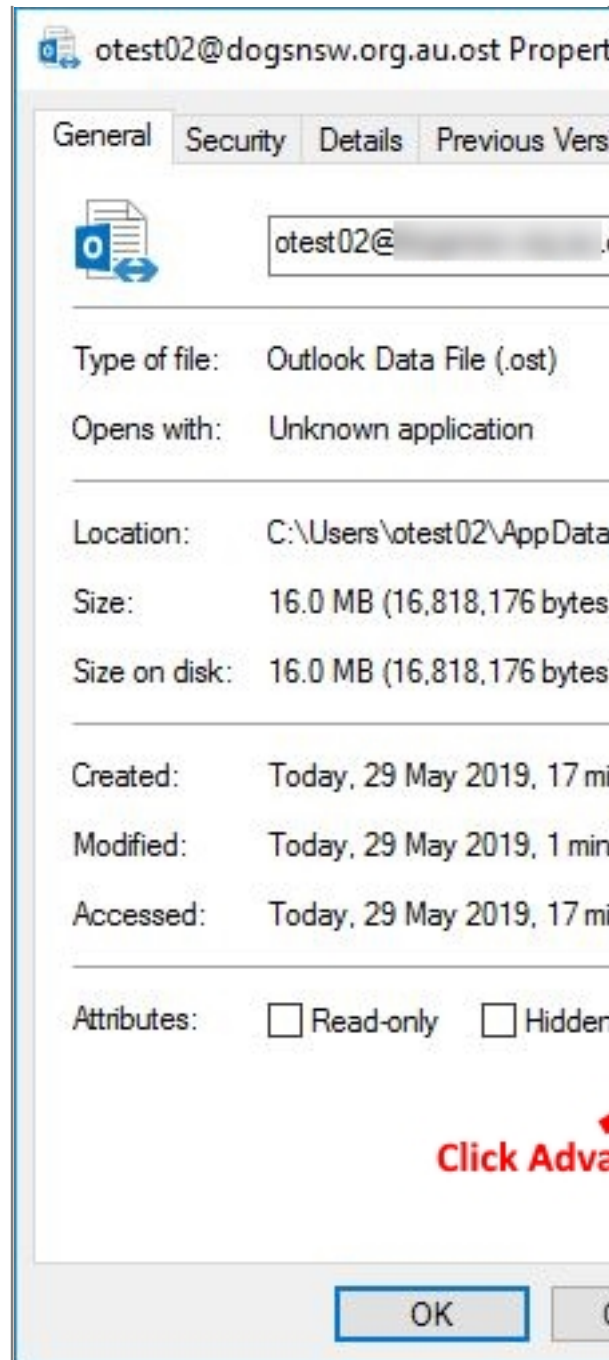
Right-click and select **Properties** for the OST file of your email account.



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Click **Advanced**.



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Ensure that the "Allow this file to have contents indexed in addition to file properties" is checked.

### Advanced Attributes



Choose the settings you want for t

#### File attributes

File is ready for archiving

Allow this file to have contents indexed

#### Compress or Encrypt attributes

Compress contents to save disk space

Encrypt contents to secure data


**Ensure this option is checked**

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Click **OK** through all the windows to apply the changes. Now we're going to re-enable the indexing function in Outlook so these changes will be picked up.

Open Outlook and then go to to **File > Options > Search** and the click **Indexing Options**.

Click **Modify**.



 Indexing Options

30,915 items indexed


 Indexing speed is reduced

Index these locations:

Included Locations

-  Start Menu
-  Users

**Click Modify**

 Advanced

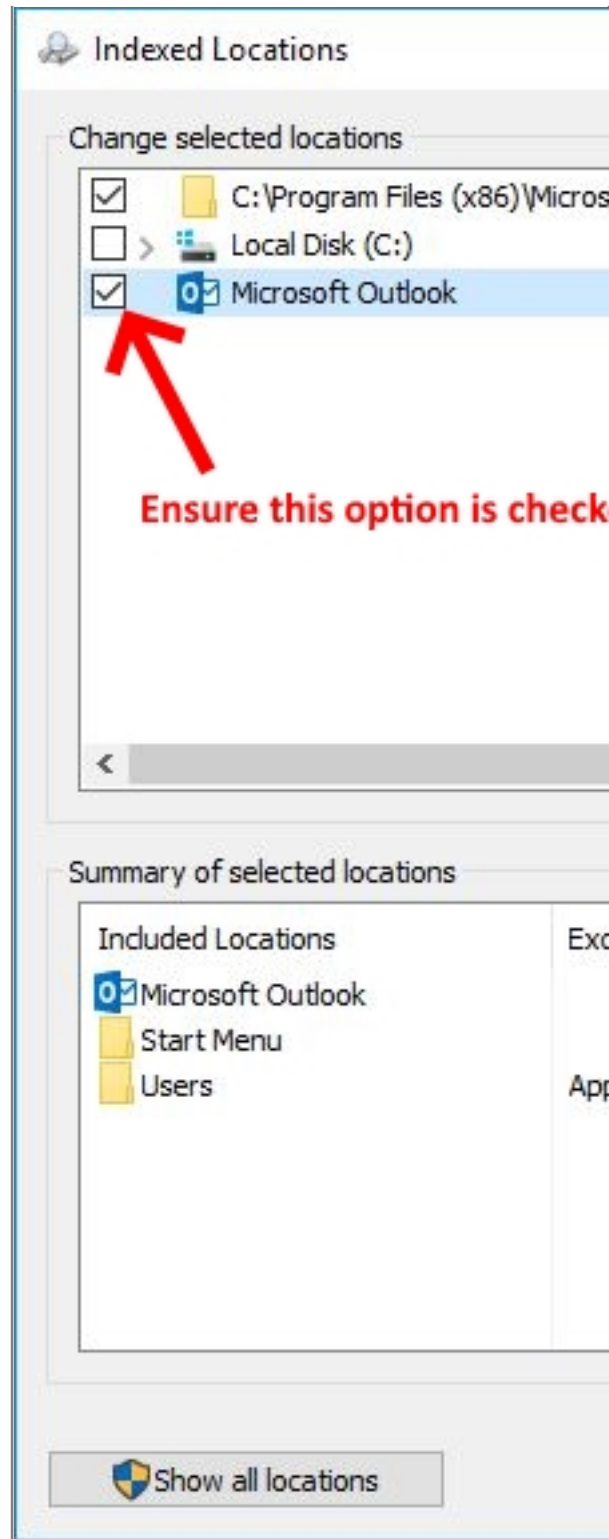
[How does indexing affect searches?](#)

[Troubleshoot search and indexing](#)

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Ensure that the "Microsoft Outlook" option is checked.





You've now completed the rectification process. Now

try and search the shared mailbox and all should be good. It may be a bit slow to search initially, due to the indexing that is being carried out in the background. Depending on how large your email file is, it could take a few hours to complete the indexing task. Once the indexing is complete the speed of your search

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cally.

Online URL: <https://kb.naturalnetworks.com/article.php?id=536>